

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-8 are pending. Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1-8 have been rejected as being obvious in view of Winter and Browne. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is overcome for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 includes features which are not suggested by the cited references, namely:

- deletion file selecting criteria information, **which is for selecting a file to be deleted for each one of the recording areas,**
- the deletion file selecting criteria information includes **a deletion criteria** based on a number of times a data file has been viewed, and executes management of the files,

Applicant respectfully submits that one of the features of the present invention, as recited in claim 1, includes **a deletion file selecting criteria information that is set for each recording area**. Applicants emphasize that **different deletion criteria may be set for each recording area**. In other words, **each** of the recording areas includes a deletion criteria. One recording area may have one deletion criteria, and another recording area may have a different deletion criteria.

Applicant respectfully submit that the aforesaid feature is not suggested by either Winter or Browne. Winter discloses that a recording area may be managed according to a ring mode (as discussed in the previous Response). Winter, however, does **not** disclose **providing a separate deletion file selecting criteria information to each recording area**.

Browne discloses that a program that already has been viewed may be deleted. Browne, however, does **not** disclose **providing a separate deletion file selecting criteria information to each recording area**.

Reconsideration is requested for claim 1.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are, therefore, not subject to rejection in view of the cited references for at least the same reasons set forth for claim 1.

Amended Claim 8

Claim 8 has been amended by combining it with the features of claim 9 (claim 9 has been cancelled). Furthermore, claim 8 has been amended to include the following features:

- step (f) includes determining the stored data file has been viewed more times than the other stored data files **and viewed in excess of one time**, and
- deleting the stored data file determined to have been viewed more times than the other stored data files, **wherein the stored data file has been viewed in excess of one time**.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner interprets Browne as disclosing management means that allows for a viewing to be set to "zero" or "one". The Examiner further states that the language of the claims do not recite a quantity of viewings in excess of one. Since Browne indicates that the number may be set to zero or one, the language of the claim is met by the cited prior art. In the last sentence of the Advisory Action, the Examiner further states that if the claim made it clear that the viewing may be set to a number in excess of one, such a limitation would overcome the cited prior art.

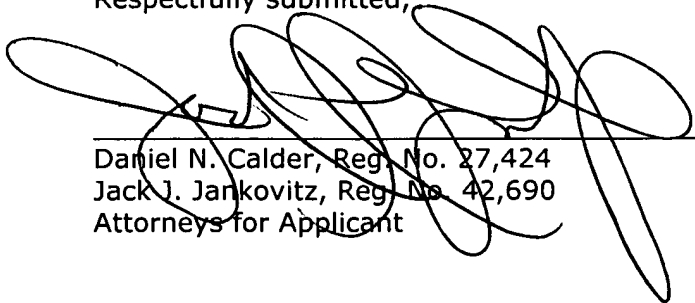
Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 8 to include that the step of determining the stored data file has been viewed more times than the other stored data files **includes that the data file has been viewed in excess of one time**. Furthermore claim 8 has been amended to recite that the stored data file determined to have been viewed more times than the other stored data file is deleted, **wherein the stored data file has been viewed in excess of one time**.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested for amended claim 8.

Conclusion

Claims 1-8 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



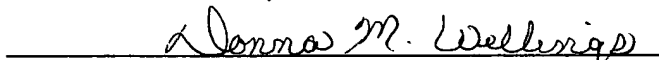
Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424
Jack J. Jankovitz, Reg. No. 42,690
Attorneys for Applicant

DNC/JJJ/dmw

Dated: January 10, 2005
P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby
authorized to charge payment to Deposit
Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated
with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,
with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
22313-1450 on January 10, 2005.



Donna M. Wellings

DMW_I:\MTS\3263US\AMENDPRELIM_05.DOC